



Waiting on the Lord

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A Study on Faith and Hope though my study is on Both in the lives of the believers my target will be on Hope.

Let's look at first the definition of each according to the scripture and a glance of Thayer Dictionary of the Greek

Faith

“Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. Hebrews 11:1 (NKJV)

(“πίστις pronounce pis’-tis

conviction of the truth of anything, belief; in the NT of a conviction or belief respecting man’s relationship to God and divine things, generally with the included idea of trust and holy fervour born of faith and joined with it.”)

Hope

Romans 8:24-25 (NKJV) For we were saved in this hope, but hope that is seen is not hope; for why does one still hope for what he sees? But if we hope for what we do not see, we eagerly wait for it with perseverance.

(“ἐλπίς pronounce el-pece

expectation of evil, fear

expectation of good, hope

in the Christian sense joyful and confident expectation of eternal salvation on hope, in hope, having hope the author of hope, or he who is its foundation the thing hoped for”)

Faith and Hope though both have to do with believing the unseen carries two different aspects. Faith has to do with believing in what we can't see which is in God but hope has to do in waiting for something to happen that hasn't happened yet , like Christ second coming, or for an answered prayer. Waiting on God is hope , believing in God is faith. Faith at times comes easier than hope. When you have Faith you pray and many times we see it working together with works.

James 2:20-26 But do you want to know, O foolish man, that faith without works is dead? Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered Isaac his son on the altar? Do you see that faith was working together with his works, and by works faith was made perfect? And the Scripture was fulfilled which says, “Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness.” And he was called the friend of God. You see then that a man is justified by works, and not by faith only. Likewise, was not Rahab the harlot also justified by works when she received the messengers and sent them out another way? For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.

But when you hope you wait. And that is all you can do is wait .While you look to him to send an answer or solve the problem we are in.

Ruth 1:12-13 Turn back, my daughters, go—for I am too old to have a husband. If I should say I have hope, if I should have a husband tonight and should also bear sons,would you wait for them till they are grown? Would you restrain yourselves from having husbands? No,

my daughters; for it grieves me very much for your sake that the hand of the Lord has gone out against me!"

Ps 39:7-8 "And now, Lord, what do I wait for? My hope is in You. Deliver me from all my transgressions; Do not make me the reproach of the foolish.

"But I will hope continually, And will praise You yet more and more."
Psalms 71:14 (NKJV)

The early Church was told to wait for the coming of the Holy Spirit so they could have power to witness for Christ.

Acts 1:4 KJV And, being assembled together with them, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, saith he, ye have heard of me.

King Saul was rejected by God and told his kingdom was not to be established for not waiting on Samuel.

1 Samuel 13:8-14 KJV And he tarried seven days, according to the set time that Samuel had appointed: but Samuel came not to Gilgal; and the people were scattered from him. And Saul said, Bring hither a burnt offering to me, and peace offerings. And he offered the burnt offering. And it came to pass, that as soon as he had made an end of offering the burnt offering, behold, Samuel came; and Saul went out to meet him, that he might salute him. And Samuel said, What hast thou done? And Saul said, Because I saw that the people were scattered from me, and that thou came not within the days appointed, and that the Philistines gathered themselves together at Michmash; Therefore said I, The Philistines will come down now upon me to Gilgal, and I have not made supplication unto the LORD: I forced myself therefore, and offered a burnt offering. And Samuel said to Saul, Thou hast done foolishly: thou hast not kept the commandment of the LORD thy God, which he commanded thee: for now would the LORD have established thy kingdom upon Israel for ever. But now thy kingdom shall not continue: the LORD hath sought him a man after his own heart, and the LORD hath commanded him to be captain over his people, because thou hast not kept that which the LORD commanded thee.

We are told to wait on the Lord so we can receive new strength, What does this word mean but to hope. To rest in him and the one to solve the problem that we with all our strength can't

Isaiah 40:28-31 (NKJV) Have you not known? Have you not heard?

The everlasting God, the Lord, The Creator of the ends of the earth,
Neither faints nor is weary. His understanding is unsearchable. He
gives power to the weak, And to those who have no might He
increases strength. Even the youths shall faint and be weary, And the
young men shall utterly fall, But those who wait on the Lord Shall
renew their strength; They shall mount up with wings like eagles,
They shall run and not be weary, They shall walk and not faint.

Hope builds up perseverance (endurance) in the Christian

“But if we hope for what we do not see, we eagerly wait for it with
endurance.”— Romans 8:25 (NET)

What a mighty power is endurance which we all need for another
spiritual battle that awaits us while being in this world.

In the meantime we are told as we hope, God’s love is being poured in
our hearts. As a fountain which never runs dry.

“Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been
poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us.”—
Romans 5:5 (NKJV)

Waiting on God Can be the hardest thing a believer has to endure

David stated

“I am weary with my crying; My throat is dry; My eyes fail while I wait for my God.”Psalms 69:3 (NKJV)

But at times David seems to find it easier and sees the result fast

When he states

“To the Chief Musician. A Psalm of David. I waited patiently for the Lord; And He inclined to me, And heard my cry.”— Psalms 40:1 (NKJV)

Other times the wait produces a quiet nature in David as it does in us if we would submit to it

“My soul, wait silently for God alone, For my expectation is from Him.”— Psalms 62:5 (NKJV)

Waiting or hoping is like the altar of the Israelites if they put their tools to design it or form the bricks they would ruin it.

Exodus 20:24-25 (NKJV) An altar of earth you shall make for Me, and you shall sacrifice on it your burnt offerings and your peace offerings, your sheep and your oxen. In every place where I record My name I will come to you, and I will bless you. And if you make Me an altar of stone, you shall not build it of hewn stone; for if you use your tool on it, you have profaned it.

God needs no help in our hoping just an open hand to receive it when it comes. But in those times of hoping we learn who is the sovereign one, who can say yes , no or just wait some more as we wait on him , for we learn how powerless we truly are and how powerful and awesome he truly is.

If animals have to wait on God how much us

Psalms 104:27-28 (NKJV) These all wait for You, That You may give them their food in due season. What You give them they gather in; You open Your hand, they are filled with good.